

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Darleen Stockley on 10/23/04.

In claim 1 line 3 delete "conjugate diene" and insert --- butadiene ---.

Change the status identifiers in claims 3-6,13 and 14 to --- original ---.

In claim 7 line 2 delete "conjugate diene" and insert --- butadiene ---.

In claim 8 line 2 delete "conjugate diene" and insert --- butadiene ---.

In claim 18 line 2 delete "conjugate diene" and insert --- butadiene ---.

In claim 19 line 2 delete "conjugate diene" and insert --- butadiene ---.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
JP06234911's permits a combination of a hydrogenated styrene/butadiene block polymer with a hydrogenated styrene/isoprene block polymer, but its examples only

employ two hydrogenated styrene/isoprene block polymers. Furthermore, the examiner is unable to determine the vinyl content of the styrene/isoprene block polymer used by JP06234911. The declaration shows the criticality of vinyl content for chemical resistance. Example 1 vs experiment 1 essentially holds all other extraneous variables constant. This overcomes any potential prima facie obviousness of altering the vinyl content of the JP0623911 styrene/isoprene block polymer.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Buttner whose telephone number is 571-272-1084. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 10 to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jim Seidleck, can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Buttner

10/24/08

/David Buttner/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796